Flre incident at Bharat Petroleum's Mahul Planf Bombay

2069. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA;

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item publisher in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 11th Nov ember, 1988 wherein it has been stated that there was a huge fire in the Bharat Petroleum's Mahul plant at Bombay;

(b) if so, what were the causes of the incident;

(c) what was the number of persons killed and injured; and

(d) whether any enquiry has since been conducted by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The total number of persons seriously injured in the accident was 46, out of which 31 have died.

The Government have appointed an Expert Committee to enquire into the fire and ascertain the causes.

Telephone Exchange at Kitrla, Bombay

2070. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWA-MY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICA. TIONS 'be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 146 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th August, 1988 and state;

(a) where the land for the new telephone exhangs has been acquired at Kurla-Bombay;

(b) what will be the capacity and area to be covered by this new electronic exchange; and

(c) what relief would be given to the persent wait-listed applicants, till new telephone exchange is set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The land for new telephone exchange has been acquired in G. Block of Bandra-Kurla Complex developed by BMRDA near C.S.T. Road.

(b) (i) This exchange will have an initial capacity of 18000 lines in 1992-93 and proposed to be expanded to 60,000 lines by March 1996.

(ii) The area to be served by Kurla Exchange will be carved out of existing Ghatkopar, Vile Parle and Bandra Exchanges.

(c) It is proposed to provide telephones to the applicants registered upto 30-9-1986 progressively by the end of the seventh Plan by expanding telephone exchangee serving the area. The remaining applicants shall be covered during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

Use of alcohol as motor fuel

2071. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH;

Win the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have derided to start an Inter. Ministerial Committee to explore the pos-